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Docket No. GJE-75
Serial No. 09/856,944In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1-10 (canceled).

11 (currently amended). A device for ~~protecting and promoting the~~ improving healing of a wound on a limb wherein said device comprises an enclosure comprising a plastic material, wherein said enclosure has a closeable opening at an end thereof, a fastening means to enable the opening of said enclosure to be closed around the limb with the wound contained within said enclosure, and at least one fluid-absorbent material within said enclosure such that, when the device is applied to a limb with a wound, a portion of said fluid absorbent material is positioned below said fastening means and is in contact with an unaffected part of the limb contained within said enclosure. to prevent excoriation of the unaffected part of the limb; and wherein said device provides a warm and moist environment around the wound.

12 (previously presented). The device according to claim 11, wherein said plastic material is gas-impermeable.

13 (previously presented). The device according to claim 11, wherein said plastic material is of a multi-layer plastic construction including a gas-impermeable layer.

14 (previously presented). The device according to claim 13, wherein said multi-layer construction further comprises an odor-absorbent layer.

15 (previously presented). The device according to claim 12, wherein said enclosure further comprises a means for venting gases through the enclosure.

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16 (previously presented). The device according to claim 15, wherein said venting means is in association with an active filter.

17 (previously presented). The device according to claim 13, wherein said enclosure further comprises a means for venting gases through the enclosure.

18 (previously presented). The device according to claim 17, wherein said venting means is in association with an active filter.

19 (previously presented). The device according to claim 14, wherein said enclosure further comprises a means for venting gases through the enclosure.

20 (previously presented). The device according to claim 19, wherein said venting means is in association with an active filter.

21 (previously presented). The device according to claim 11, wherein said enclosure is water vapor-permeable.

22 (previously presented). The device according to claim 11, wherein said enclosure is in the general shape of a sock or boot.

23 (previously presented). The device according to claim 22, wherein said enclosure further comprises a non-slip sole.

24 (previously presented). The device according to claim 11, wherein said enclosure further comprises a burstable sachet within the enclosure, wherein said sachet comprises an agent suitable for treating burns.

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25 (previously presented). The device according to claim 11, wherein said plastic material is pliable.

26 (previously presented). The device according to claim 11, wherein said plastic material is at least partially transparent to provide visible access to the wound.

27-30 (canceled).

31 (currently amended). A method for ~~treating~~improving healing in a limb having a wound using a device for protecting the wounded limb, wherein said device comprises an enclosure comprising a plastic material, wherein said enclosure has a closeable opening at an end thereof, a fastening means to enable the opening of said enclosure to be closed around the limb with the wound contained within said enclosure, and at least one fluid-absorbent material within said enclosure such that, when the device is applied to a limb with a wound, a portion of said fluid absorbent material is positioned below said fastening means and is in contact with an unaffected part of the limb contained within said enclosure, to prevent excoriation of the unaffected part of the limb; and wherein said device provides a warm and moist environment around the wound, thereby promoting healing of the wound, wherein said method comprises ~~comprising~~:

- a. inserting the wounded limb into the closeable opening of the device;
- b. placing the wounded limb in the enclosure so that the wound is contained within the enclosure; and
- c. positioning the fastening means about the closeable opening such that the portion of said fluid absorbent material is positioned below the fastening means and is in contact with said unaffected part of the limb; and
- ed. securely closing the enclosure of the device about the wounded limb using the fastening means creating a warm, moist environment within the enclosure thereby promoting wound healing.

32 (previously presented). The method according to claim 31, wherein said plastic material is gas-impermeable.

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33 (previously presented). The method according to claim 31, wherein said plastic material is of a multi-layer plastic construction including a gas-impermeable layer.

34 (previously presented). The method according to claim 33, wherein said multi-layer construction further comprises an odor-absorbent layer.